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No. 115

House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 14, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JESSE L. JACKSON, Jr., to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

On this Monday in July, Lord, Congress seeks Your blessing as it gathers

to take up its work of policy and legislation for the United States of America.

The problems facing the Nation, the concerns of its citizens, as well as life itself, will not be settled with simplistic solutions. Since the light of truth is sought in every corner of economic darkness, and energy is needed to sustain every aspect of contemporary life, we stand humbly before You admitting our limitations.

Lord, give the Members of the House of Representatives the ability to listen intently to differing opinions and respond creatively. May their faith in You be strong enough to stretch every self-interest to the broader vision of the common good, expecting Your intervention in ordered routine or Your radical twist to basic intent.

Thus may all seek Your wisdom to guide this government and this Nation now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 14, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 14, 2008, at 12:42 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4289.

That the Senate passed S. 1046.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H. Con. Res. 236.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,

Clerk of the House.

(By Deborah M. Spriggs, Deputy Clerk).

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. HARRIS PASTIDES

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the Board of Trustees of the University of South Carolina unanimously selected Dr. Harris Pastides as the 28th president of the university since 1801. Prior to his being selected as president of USC, Dr. Pastides had been Vice President for Research and Health Sciences. His appointment completes a long and thorough selection process chaired by Trustee Miles Loadholt of Barnwell, and I commend the university on their extraordinary work in choosing a strong and capable individual to lead the university.

As an alumnus of USC law school, I cherish the relationship the university

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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continues to form with the South Carolina community, and its national leadership in areas of research and discovery; most notably, the university's research in biomedical technology, as well as fuel cell and hydrogen technology. I welcome Dr. Pastides' and his wife Patricia's dedication to these goals.

I wish to thank Dr. Andrew Sorensen and his wife, Donna, for their remarkable leadership of the university for the past 6 years.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

POST OFFICE CONGRESS

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, almost every morning I talk to my parents who are both in their 80s and are very inquisitive about what goes on in Congress.

Today, like most Mondays, I tell them we are working on postal legislation. I don't really go further and tell them the legislation actually is just naming post office buildings throughout the vast plains and prairies of America. After all, we have named 72 Federal buildings in Congress.

According to the Wall Street Journal, almost 30 percent of our legislation passed this Congress has been naming Federal buildings. Today I see we will be naming two more post offices.

Today Mom said she can't even afford gas to get to the post office. Mr. Speaker, maybe this "Drill Nothing Congress" should find more energy for Americans. Open up the Outer Continental Shelf to crude oil. Congress needs to get to work and solve the gasoline issue. We can name post office buildings at some other time.

There has been enough talk about energy. Now action is demanded. However, it seems when all is said and done, more is said than done about the energy problem. Maybe we should rename our Congress the Post Office Congress.

And that's just the way it is.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 5618) to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5618

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Except as otherwise expressly provided therein, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the National Sea Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1121 et seq.).

SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 202(a) (33 U.S.C. 1121(a)) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1)(D) to read as follows:

“(D) encourage the development of preparation, forecast, analysis, mitigation, response, and recovery systems for coastal hazards;”;

(2) in paragraph (2) by striking “program of research, education,” and inserting “program of integrated research, education, extension,”; and

(3) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

“(6) The National Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy issued by the National Science and Technology Council's Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology on January 26, 2007, identifies research priorities for compelling areas of interaction between society and the ocean, and calls for the engagement of a broad array of ocean science sectors (government, academia, industry, and non-government entities) to address the areas of greatest research need and opportunity.

“(7) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, through the national sea grant college program, offers the most suitable locus and means for such commitment and engagement through the promotion of activities that will result in greater such understanding, assessment, development, utilization, and conservation. The most cost-effective way to promote such activities is through continued and increased Federal support of the establishment, development, and operation of programs and projects by sea grant colleges, sea grant institutes, and other institutions, including strong collaborations between Administration scientists and research and outreach personnel at academic institutions.”.

(b) PURPOSE.—Section 202(c) (33 U.S.C. 1121(c)) is amended by striking “to promote research, education, training, and advisory service activities” and inserting “to promote integrated research, education, training, and extension activities”.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 203 (33 U.S.C. 1122) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (11) by striking “advisory services” and inserting “extension services”;

(2) in each of paragraphs (12) and (13) by striking “(33 U.S.C. 1126)”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(17) The term ‘regional research and information plan’ means a plan developed by one or more sea grant colleges or sea grant

institutes that identifies regional priorities to implement the National Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy.

“(18) The term ‘National Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy’ means such plan and strategy issued by the National Science and Technology Council's Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology on January 26, 2007.”.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 307 of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the designation of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary” (Public Law 102-251; 106 Stat. 66) is repealed.

SEC. 5. NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM, GENERALLY.

(a) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Section 204(b) (33 U.S.C. 1123(b)) is amended—

(1) by amending in paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(1) sea grant programs that comprise a national sea grant college program network, including international projects conducted within such programs and regional and national projects conducted among such programs;”;

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) administration of the national sea grant college program and this title by the national sea grant office and the Administration;”;

(3) by amending paragraph (4) to read as follows:

“(4) any regional or national strategic investments in fields relating to ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources developed in consultation with the board and with the approval of the sea grant colleges and the sea grant institutes.”.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 204(c)(2) (33 U.S.C. 1123(c)(2)) is amended by striking “Within 6 months of the date of enactment of the National Sea Grant College Program Reauthorization Act of 1998, the” and inserting “The”.

(c) FUNCTIONS OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM.—Section 204(d) (33 U.S.C. 1123(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “long-range”;;

(2) in paragraph (3)(A)—

(A) by striking “(A)(i) evaluate” and inserting “(A) evaluate and assess”;;

(B) by striking “activities; and” and inserting “activities;”;

(C) by striking clause (ii); and

(3) in paragraph (3)(B)—

(A) by redesignating clauses (ii) through (iv) as clauses (iv) through (vi), respectively, and by inserting after clause (i) the following:

“(ii) encourage collaborations among sea grant colleges and sea grant institutes to address regional and national priorities established under subsection (c)(1);

“(iii) encourage cooperation with Minority Serving Institutions—

“(I) to enhance collaborative research opportunities for faculty and students in the areas of atmospheric, oceanic, and environmental sciences, and remote sensing;

“(II) to improve opportunities for, and retention of, students and faculty from Minority Serving Institutions in the NOAA related sciences; and

“(III) to increase the number of such students graduating in NOAA science areas;”;

(B) in clause (iv) (as so redesignated) by striking “encourage” and inserting “ensuring”.

SEC. 6. PROGRAM OR PROJECT GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.

(a) EXEMPTION FROM LIMITATION ON COST SHARE.—Section 205(a) (33 U.S.C. 1124(a)) is